



Attorney Docket No. 0670-225

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hiroshi MIYAZAWA et al.

Serial No. 09/486,116

Filed: February 18, 2000

For: AN OPTICAL PICKUP APPARATUS
FOR SIMULTANEOUSLY READING
DATA FROM A PLURALITY OF
TRACKS OF AN OPTICAL DISC

) Group Art Unit: 2655

) Examiner: G. Patel

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September
) 20, 2005.

Rose F. Chen

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Official Action mailed June 1, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

Claims 1-9, 16 and 18-32 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 16, 18 and 30 are independent. Claims 24-26 have been withdrawn from consideration and depend directly or indirectly from generic claim 18 (page 2, Paper No. 13). For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 3 of the Official Action rejects claims 1-9, 16, 18-23 and 27-32 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Patent No. 5,497,366 to Fujisawa, U.S. Patent No. 5,023,845 to Crane et al. and EP 0316959 to Noda et al. The Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained against the independent claims of the present invention, as amended.